



# Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

**January 2009**

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

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## **EOPSS Funding Opportunities**

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

### **FFY 2009 Urban Area Security Initiative Non-Profit Security Grant Program (UASI-NSGP)**

#### **Application**

#### **Application Deadline: February 13, 2009**

The EOPSS Office of Grants & Research, Homeland Security Division announces the availability of the FFY 2009 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP). Funds are intended to support “target hardening activities” to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of international terrorist attack. Allowable costs under this program are limited to equipment and training. The only eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of international terrorist attack and are located within the Metro Boston UASI region (Cities of Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Quincy, Revere, and Somerville; Towns of Brookline and Winthrop).

For more information: <http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopssubtopic&L=6&L0=Home&L1=Funding+%26+Training+Opportunities&L2=Homeland+Security&L3=Grant+Programs&L4=Grant+Specific+Documents&L5=UASI+Non-Profit+Security+Grant+Program&sid=Eeops> or [www.mass.gov/eops](http://www.mass.gov/eops) (click on Funding & Training Opportunities and then Homeland Security). Questions regarding this grant program should be sent via email to [Jenny.Barron@state.ma.us](mailto:Jenny.Barron@state.ma.us)

### **FFY 2009 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: February 13, 2009**

The EOPSS Office of Grants & Research, Homeland Security Division announces the availability of the FFY 2009 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) Grant Program. Funds are intended to “increase coordination and collaboration among Federal, State, local and tribal law enforcement agencies in responding to or recovering from terrorist attacks”. Allowable costs under this program include equipment, vehicle rental and/or maintenance, and operational overtime for law enforcement agencies. The only eligible applicants are Municipal, County, and federally-recognized Tribal law enforcement entities with an international water border. Applicants must demonstrate that they have a current working relationship with U.S. DHS Customs Border Patrol (CBP). Entities without a current working relationship with CBP should not submit applications.

For more information: [http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Funding+%26+Training+Opportunities&L2=Homeland+Security&L3=Grant+Programs&L4=Grant+Specific+Documents&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=programs\\_hs\\_stonegarden&csid=Eeops](http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Funding+%26+Training+Opportunities&L2=Homeland+Security&L3=Grant+Programs&L4=Grant+Specific+Documents&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=programs_hs_stonegarden&csid=Eeops) or contact [matthew.demerle@state.ma.us](mailto:matthew.demerle@state.ma.us).

### **FFY 2009 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Application**

#### **Application Deadline: February 13, 2009**

The EOPSS Office of Grants & Research, Homeland Security Division announces the availability of the FFY 2009 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program. Funds are intended to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, and interoperable EOCs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. State, local, or tribal principal EOCs are eligible to apply. Each state, local, or tribal EOC may request funding for only one construction or renovation project.

For more information: [http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Funding+%26+Training+Opportunities&L2=Homeland+Security&L3=Grant+Programs&L4=Grant+Specific+Documents&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=programs\\_hs\\_08\\_eocgp&csid=Eeops](http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eopsterminal&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Funding+%26+Training+Opportunities&L2=Homeland+Security&L3=Grant+Programs&L4=Grant+Specific+Documents&sid=Eeops&b=terminalcontent&f=programs_hs_08_eocgp&csid=Eeops) or contact [Tracy.Brown@state.ma.us](mailto:Tracy.Brown@state.ma.us).

### **2008-2009 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through August 2009**

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announces the availability of approximately \$3.2 million in federal funds for high visibility traffic enforcement and equipment grants through September 2009. Funds are available for local police and campus police departments to conduct mobilizations entitled "Click It or Ticket," "Road Respect," and "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest." In addition, participating grant departments will be eligible to purchase traffic safety equipment, signage, and materials after July 1, 2009 upon successful completion of selected 2009 enforcement mobilizations.

For more information: [www.mass.gov/eopsfunding](http://www.mass.gov/eopsfunding) (click on Highway Safety) or contact Caroline Hymoff, Highway Safety Division at 617-725-3334 or [Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us](mailto:Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us).

### **Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini- Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through June 2009**

Funded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini-grant Program, "Using Prevention Strategies ... Empowering SADD Students to Improve Their Schools and Communities (UPS)," addresses the core issues of underage drinking, impaired driving, and traffic safety. The goal of the mini-grant program is to raise awareness about these issues and create sustainable youth and adult behavior change to reduce the risks associated with engaging in these activities. All Massachusetts middle schools, high schools, and youth groups are eligible to apply for a \$600 mini-grant from SADD. Each group or chapter selected to receive a mini-grant may utilize the grant award in one of two focus areas: traffic safety or underage drinking and impaired driving prevention. Within the focus area selected, the group will then opt to concentrate on policy and enforcement or education and collaboration. All groups will engage in communication strategies such as media outreach or similar efforts.

For more information: <http://www.sadd.org/sresources.htm>.

## **Other Funding Opportunities**

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

### **OVC FY09 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide**

#### **Application Deadline: January 12, 2009**

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to produce the 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) Resource Guide. One cooperative agreement in the amount of \$225,000 will be awarded for the purposes of producing a Resource Guide for the victims' field for use during NCVRW in April 2010, and throughout the year.

For more information: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/txt/2010\\_NCVRW\\_Resource\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/txt/2010_NCVRW_Resource_Guide.pdf).

### **Intensive Case Management for Family Members of Homicide Victims in Rural Areas**

#### **Application Deadline: January 20, 2009**

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to identify and replicate promising practices related to the provision of a comprehensive array of services to family members of homicide victims in rural areas. In the first 12-month period of this cooperative agreement, funding will be used to enhance, evaluate, and institutionalize existing promising direct service interventions in partnership with other community agencies within rural communities. In the second phase of the project, the grantee will continue to provide direct services and will develop technical assistance resources that will be useful to other agencies in rural settings. The third phase of this project will provide funding to replicate and evaluate the program in three rural settings.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/FY09IntensiveCaseManagement.pdf>.

### **Action Partnerships for National Membership, Professional and Community Service Organizations**

#### **Application Deadline: January 21, 2009**

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to develop or improve the capacity of members of national membership, professional, and community service organizations to advance victims' rights and improve victims' services. Examples of possible deliverables include: development and delivery of trainings or seminars at national conferences to increase professionals/members understanding of the impact of crime victimization and related issues and to develop or enhance their ability to serve crime victims; replication of successful training or awareness programs that reflect best practices in serving crime victims for distribution to membership or professionally affiliated pilot sites nationwide; or development of a forum, event, or media piece designed to increase understanding and awareness of the organization's national membership about issues related to victimization and the impact of crime on victims, their families, and the community, with follow-up activities that provide members of the organization the opportunity to appropriately address victims' issues and needs.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/FY09ActionPartnerships.pdf>.

### **Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing**

#### **Application Deadline: January 21, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding to (1) assist eligible entities in performing DNA analysis on unidentified human remains and/or reference samples to support the efforts of States and units of local government to identify missing persons and (2) to enter the resulting DNA profiles into the FBI's National DNA Index System using the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

For more information: <http://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/s1000860.pdf>.

### **Biometric Technologies: Mobile Fingerprint Capture**

#### **Application Deadline: January 21, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding the development of a mobile wireless device capable of the simultaneous capture of four fingerprints. NIJ is especially interested in research and development proposals for technology to identify or verify the identity of a person in the field.

For more information: <http://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/s1000861.pdf>.

**Data Resources Program 2009: Funding for the Analysis of Existing Data**

**Application Deadline: January 21, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding to replicate previous findings and conduct original research extending data from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). NACJD houses quantitative and qualitative data from NIJ-funded research and provides online access to downloadable, machine-readable files as well as data dictionaries, study abstracts and, in limited cases, MapInfo or ESRI geographic data. NIJ is particularly interested in NACJD data, but will consider data from other sources.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000837.pdf>.

**Personal Protective Equipment: Tactical Officers' Full-Face Respirator**

**Application Deadline: January 21, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding to research, develop, and demonstrate a lightweight, rugged tactical officers' full-face respirator with enhanced ergonomics, flexibility, modular capacity, and scalability to increase the safety of law enforcement officers and other criminal justice practitioners performing routine and/or tactical tasks that pose chemical, biological, or radiological hazards. The respirator must be capable of serving as an air-purifying respirator (employing an integral/detachable filter) and as a self-contained breathing apparatus, and have the ability to switch between them without breaking seal.

For more information: <http://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000852.pdf>.

**Public Awareness and Outreach for Victims in Underserved Communities**

**Application Deadline: January 22, 2009**

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to develop victimization-focused public awareness campaigns targeted at communities that are underserved. The applicant may choose its own focus or type of crime victimization for the public awareness campaign, but the applicant must demonstrate significant expertise in the subject area chosen as well as the capability of conveying accurate information and resources on that topic. The applicant must choose an area of focus for which there are available resources in the immediate community, and the application must include a strategy for coordinating with the service organizations that can provide these resources.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdftxt/FY09UnderservedCommunities.pdf>.

**OVW FY 2009 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program**

**Application Deadline: January 28, 2009**

The Office on Violence Against Women seeks applications for funding to increase the availability of civil and criminal legal assistance necessary to provide effective aid to adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are seeking relief in legal matters arising as a consequence of that abuse or violence. Criminal legal assistance is limited to criminal matters relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

For more information: <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/lav-fy2009-solicitation.pdf>.



**Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program**

**Application Deadline: January 28, 2009**

The Office on Violence Against Women seeks applications for funding for projects that will support a comprehensive approach to addressing elder abuse in their communities. These projects should provide training to criminal justice professionals, governmental agency staff, and victim assistants to enhance their ability to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in their communities; provide cross training opportunities to professionals working with older victims; develop or enhance a community coordinated response to elder abuse; and provide or enhance services for victims who are 50 years of age or older.

For more information: <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/elder-solicitation2009.pdf>.

**National Study of Collateral Consequences for Criminal Convictions**

**Application Deadline: February 4, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding to conduct a study to determine and compile the collateral consequences of convictions for criminal Federal offenses and criminal offenses in each of the 50 States, each territory of the United States, and the District of Columbia. The purpose of this research is to inform and improve criminal justice policy and practice by providing policymakers with the information they need to understand the legal and regulatory barriers that may affect successful offender reentry into the community.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000845.pdf>.

**Evaluation of a Demonstration Program: Drug Testing, Certain and Swift Sanctions, and Treatment Referral for Chronic Drug Users Under Community Supervision**

**Application Deadline: February 4, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding research to evaluate the effectiveness of a demonstration program that includes drug-testing, sanctions, and treatment protocol for chronic drug users under criminal justice supervision in the community. The basic principles of the program must include: (1) frequent drug testing; (2) certain, swift, and proportionate sanctions for failed tests; and (3) access to residential treatment, as appropriate.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000844.pdf>.

**National Field- Generated Training, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration Projects**

**Application Deadline: February 24, 2009**

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to develop or support the development of national-scope training, technical assistance, and promising practices, models, and programs that build the capacity of victim service and other ancillary providers to provide services and support to crime victims or to ensure that victims are afforded the rights to which they are entitled. Projects should focus on one of the following focus areas: elder abuse, sexual assault, victim restitution, child abuse, youth victimization (including cybervictimization), victim services in corrections settings, stalking, the implications of forensic technology for victims, and training and technical assistance on crime victims' rights (not direct victims' rights compliance or enforcement efforts).

Access full text at: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdftxt/FY09\\_National\\_Field\\_Generated.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdftxt/FY09_National_Field_Generated.pdf).

### **OJJDP FY 09 National Mentoring Programs**

#### **Application Deadline: February 25, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding to support mentoring programs that have a national scope and impact on combating juvenile delinquency, reducing the victimization of children, and improving the juvenile justice system. Applicants are invited to propose the enhancement or expansion of initiatives that will assist in the development and maturity of community programs to provide mentoring services to high-risk populations that are underserved due to location, shortage of mentors, special physical or mental challenges of the targeted population, or other analogous situations identified by the community in need of mentoring services. Access full text at: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/NationalMentoring.pdf>.

### **Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open (an application for funding or technical assistance should be submitted to the OVC Director as soon as practical following a terrorist or mass violence incident)**

OVC developed the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program to provide timely assistance to jurisdictions to address victim needs in the aftermath of an act of terrorism or mass violence. Applicants can apply for funds for only two situations: to compensate *and* assist victims of terrorism and mass violence that occur within the United States, or to assist victims of terrorism and mass violence that occur outside the United States. The funds available through the program may supplement other resources and services available to jurisdictions responding to acts of terrorism or mass violence. Applicants eligible for funding include state victim assistance and victim compensation programs; public agencies including federal, state, and local governments; and victim service and non-governmental organizations.

For more information: <http://www.ovc.gov/fund/pdf/txt/antiterrorapplication.pdf>.

### **Helping Outreach Programs to Expand Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open (contingent upon funding availability)**

OVC will provide up to \$10,000 each to grassroots community and faith-based victim service organizations and coalitions to help improve their outreach and services to crime victims, through support of program development, networking, coalition building, and service delivery. Funds may be used to develop program literature, train advocates, produce a newsletter, support victim outreach efforts, and recruit volunteers. Eligible applicants include organizations and coalitions operating for at least 1 year that have not received federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victim assistance grant funding and that have an annual operating budget of \$50,000 or less. All applicants must also have a history of serving crime victims.

For more information: <http://www.ovc.gov/fund/expandingoutreach/welcome.html>.

## **Research and Publications**

### **Criminal Victimization, 2007**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics recently released this report which provides estimates of rates and counts of personal and property victimizations from the 2007 National Crime Victimization Survey. The report compares crime rates from 2005 through 2007 and highlights fluctuations in crime rates during this time. The report includes data on violent crimes, property crimes, and personal theft, as well as the characteristics of victims of these crimes.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv07.pdf>.

### **Prisoners in 2007**

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report highlights data from the National Prisoner Statistics on prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal or state correctional authorities in 2007. The report provides year to year comparisons and includes information on imprisonment rates for prisoners sentenced to more than one year; counts of males and females in prison; prisoner demographics; admissions and releases; counts of inmates in custody in state and federal prisons and jails; and custody incarceration rates. Also included are counts of inmates held in military, U.S. territories, Indian country, Immigration and Customs Enforcement facilities and by juvenile authorities.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p07.pdf>.

### **Probation and Parole in the United States, 2007 - Statistical Tables**

These statistical tables, produced and published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, present the count of persons on probation and parole in 2007, by state. Data are available on state-level probation and parole rates, entries, and exists, as well as national and state-level statistics on parole re-incarceration rates. Supervisee demographics and offense type are also included.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ppus07st.pdf>.

### **Reentry Partnerships: A Guide for States & Faith-Based and Community Organizations**

Sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, this guide presents recommendations on how to improve reentry, reduce recidivism, and build or improve collaborations with community-based service providers. Geared for administrators of corrections and community corrections agencies, legislators, faith-based and community organizations, the guide offers practical advice on how to create and maintain collaborations in an effort to reduce recidivism and assist people returning home to become successful members of their communities.

Access full text at: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/CSG\\_Reentry\\_Partnership.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/CSG_Reentry_Partnership.pdf).

## **Conferences and Trainings**

### **Forward Thinking and Futurism: 2009 American Correctional Association (ACA) Winter Conference**

**January 9-14, 2009 in Kissimmee, FL**

Sponsored by the ACA, this conference features approximately 150 intensive training sessions and workshops focused on best practices in the fields of adult prisons and jails, juvenile corrections and detention, community institutions, and community-based programs. Topics include: Mothering From Within: A Peer Education Program for Incarcerated Women; maintaining professional boundaries in correctional health care; demographics mapping; discharge planning; and more.

For more information: <http://www.aca.org/conferences/Winter09/home.asp>.

### **American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) 2009 Winter Training Institute** **February 8-11, 2009 in Myrtle Beach, SC**

Sponsored by the American Probation and Parole Association, this conference offers a combination of educational workshops, intensive training programs, and a resource expo specifically for community corrections. The goal of APPA Training Institute is to provide participants with the opportunity to discuss the latest theories and advanced technology, develop innovative solutions, and network with experts in the field.

For more information: [http://www.appa-net.org/institutes/2009\\_myrtle/exhibitor/](http://www.appa-net.org/institutes/2009_myrtle/exhibitor/).



### **Train the Trainer ---Drugs 101 Forum**

**February 26, 2009 in Salem, MA**

Hosted by the office of District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett, this “train-the-trainer” workshop will highlight the new *Underage Drinking* presentations and the latest initiative for parents, *Drugs 101: What Adults Need to Know*. All four PowerPoint presentations cover the legal, social and physical consequences of teen alcohol and drug abuse. All participants will receive training materials and copies of all four programs: *Drugs 101: What Adults Need to Know*, *Underage Drinking*, *Not Everyone is Doing it for Middle School Students*, *High School Students and Parents*. There is no cost for this program but space is limited and registration is required.

For more information: please contact Erin Queeney at 978-745-6610 x 5174 or Diane Steele at 978 - 745-6610 x 5082 or email [diane.steele@state.ma.us](mailto:diane.steele@state.ma.us) to register.

### **Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: “Theorizing Criminal Justice: Practical Applications for the Field”**

**March 10-14, 2009 in Boston, MA**

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences’ Annual Meeting provides a forum for approximately 2,000 educators, researchers, practitioners, and students to discuss emerging issues in research, policy, education, and practice within the field of criminal justice. This year’s conference focuses on practical applications for the field.

For more information: [http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167\\_668\\_2915.cfm](http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm).

### **March 2009 National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA)**

**March 1-6, 2009 in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas**

Sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime, the NVAA offers education and skill-based trainings for those who assist victims and survivors of crime. The conference includes three instructional tracks: foundation-level training; professional skill-building training; and the leadership institute. Each training lasts 2 to 5 days.

For more information: <https://www.ovcttac.gov/nvaa>.

## **News**

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

### **A \$26m Try to Tame City's Crime Hot Spots**

***The Boston Globe*, December 4, 2008**

The Boston Foundation and city officials are preparing to flood a 1.5-square-mile section of the city with massive crime-fighting resources over the next six years, pinpointing about 2,000 young criminals who they believe drive more than three-quarters of the city's violence, reports *The Boston Globe*. The unusual public-private initiative, known as StreetSafe Boston, will concentrate on 1,400 to 2,200 people between 16 and 24 years old who live along or near the Blue Hill Avenue spine and are former offenders, gang members, actively involved in violent crime, or involved with the Department of Youth Services. The street workers, who have yet to be hired, would be clustered in areas of Roxbury, the South End, Lower Roxbury, and Dorchester, where 78 percent of the city's shootings and homicides occur. Mayor Thomas M. Menino has instructed city agencies to cooperate with the initiative on the plan, said his spokeswoman, Dorothy Joyce.

Access full text at: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/12/04/a\\_26m\\_try\\_to\\_tame\\_citys\\_crime\\_hot\\_spots/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/12/04/a_26m_try_to_tame_citys_crime_hot_spots/).

### **Cops Target Holiday Looters**

***The Boston Herald*, December 12, 2008**

According to *The Boston Herald*, Boston cops are cracking down on increasingly desperate Yuletide shoplifters, deploying brand new recruits to retail meccas and putting cops in direct cell phone contact with the merchants most threatened by grab-and-go looters. On Black Friday, Boston police Superintendent Daniel Linskey began deploying the Hub's 37 newly graduated police recruits to the "holiday beat," where they'll spend the rest of the year keeping a close watch on the high volume of shoppers. The rookie cops are also giving their cell phone numbers to store clerks, hoping to quicken their response times. Meanwhile, Superintendent Bruce Holloway organized a presentation earlier this month for local retailers with tips to prevent shoplifting.

Access full text at: [http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2008\\_12\\_12\\_Cops\\_target\\_holiday\\_looters:\\_Keeping\\_theft\\_under\\_wraps/srv=home&position=0](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2008_12_12_Cops_target_holiday_looters:_Keeping_theft_under_wraps/srv=home&position=0).

### **Teens' Cell Phone Theft Reaches Epidemic in Hub**

***The Boston Herald*, December 22, 2008**

According to *The Boston Herald*, An epidemic of violent cell phone thefts among teenagers is sweeping the Hub, say Boston police, putting kids at risk of robbery if they openly talk or text on their wireless devices. The most commonly swiped phone is the well-marketed Sidekick - a trendy, wide-screen phone coveted for its ability to interface with social networking Web sites. One in seven robberies in the Hub this year involved a Sidekick. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 4, 304 Sidekicks were pilfered, up 200 percent from last year, said Boston Police Commissioner Edward Davis.

Access full text at: [http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2008\\_12\\_22\\_Teens\\_cell\\_phone\\_theft\\_reaches\\_epidemic\\_in\\_Hub/srv=home&position=1](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2008_12_22_Teens_cell_phone_theft_reaches_epidemic_in_Hub/srv=home&position=1).

### **Drug Law Puzzles Police**

***The Boston Globe*, December 25, 2008**

Prosecutors and police officers say they still have fundamental questions about how to enforce the new law that takes effect Jan. 2 decriminalizing possession of small amounts of marijuana, reports *The Boston Globe*. Many law enforcement officials strongly opposed the intensely debated Nov. 4 state ballot question that will turn possession of an ounce or less of marijuana into an offense on par with a traffic violation. Police and prosecutors say they are in the dark about many aspects of the law, including what they should do with people caught with several joints who refuse to identify themselves, who will develop and fund a drug-awareness program required for violators under 18, and whether state-run laboratories that test drugs seized in criminal cases will continue to do so for small quantities of marijuana.

Access full text at: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/12/25/drug\\_law\\_puzzles\\_police/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/12/25/drug_law_puzzles_police/).

### **Mass. Gov. Deval Patrick Says Another \$1 billion in State Cuts is Likely**

***The Republican*, December 30, 2008**

Massachusetts' Gov. Deval Patrick said that tax collections may fall another \$1 billion below projections, so he will ask the Legislature for expanded budget-cutting powers, including the authority to reduce state aid payments to cities and towns, according to *The Republican*. The new cuts would be on top of \$1.4 billion in budget reductions announced in October. The administration will ask for the expanded budget-cutting powers shortly after the Legislature resumes formal sessions next week and would try to make any cuts as quickly as possible.

Access full text at: [http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/12/mass\\_gov\\_deval\\_patrick\\_says\\_an.html?category=Statehouse](http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/12/mass_gov_deval_patrick_says_an.html?category=Statehouse).

## **Announcement**

### **College and University Alcohol Abuse/Underage Drinking Survey**

#### **Survey Deadline: January 9, 2009**

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Highway Safety Division is seeking input from college administrators regarding underage drinking and related programming on Massachusetts college and university campuses. Participation in this survey would greatly benefit our initiatives as well as colleges and universities across Massachusetts. This survey can be accessed through the following link: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=SjAk1PBIjxdBaQSRIFrRTA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=SjAk1PBIjxdBaQSRIFrRTA_3d_3d). If you have any questions please contact Dan DeMille, 617-725-3341.

## **Contact Information**

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: [EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us](mailto:EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us)

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